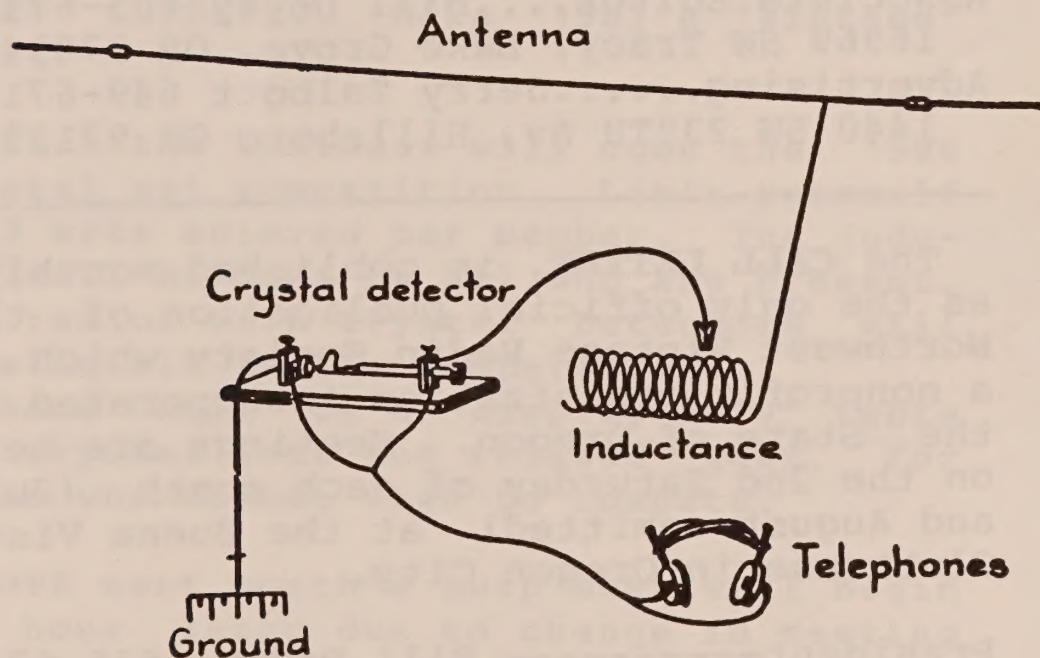


# NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO SOCIETY CALL LETTER

Oct. 1986

Vol.12 No.10



The essentials of receiving radio signals, comprising the antenna, inductance coil for tuning, crystal detector, telephones, and the ground.



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The **CALL LETTER**, is published monthly, as the only official publication of the **Northwest Vintage Radio Society** which is a nonprofit organization incorporated in the State of Oregon. Meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month (July and August omitted) at the Buena Vista Clubhouse in Oregon City.

|                         |               |          |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------|
| President-----          | Bill DeVey    | 635-6746 |
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# October

DATE : October 11th, 1986  
TIME : 11:00 ===== NOTE NEW TIME  
PLACE : Buena Vista Clubhouse  
ADDRESS : 16th & Jackson streets  
Oregon City, Oregon

October has possibilities. Don't miss it.

During the business meeting the floor will be open for nominations for society officers. Please note the duties of the officers on page 10. This will begin this month so as not to interfere radically with NEXT MONTH'S SWAP MEET.

Also, final discussion & ratification of a rental agreement will have to come about. There are very few details left to cover.

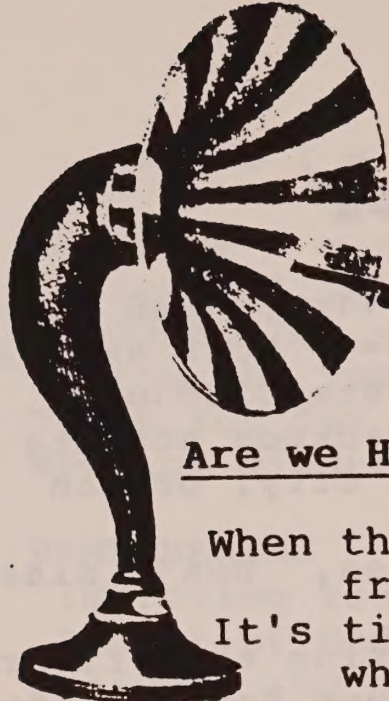
GET INVOLVED. Make 1987 a "Vintage" year!

After the business will come the 1986 Crystal set competition. Limit yourself to 3 sets entered per member. The judging will be done by all who are present. All radios with Crystal Detectors will be eligible in the competition.

There will be a "display only" table for crystal sets and related gear, for those who do not wish to compete.

NOTE next month's swap meet will begin an hour later due to change in meeting time.





# ATMOSPHERICA

By J

## Are we Having Fun Yet ?

When the question is asked,  
from bottoms or tops,  
It's time to look at  
where the "buck stops".

If too few people are  
carrying the weight,  
With sagging legs or  
unsteady gate;

If "good intentions" are  
there alright,  
But too few hands  
make work "unlight".

If you let "George do it"  
when you should instead,  
And George doesn't do it-  
he too's home in bed.

Volunteer now-  
help the going go smooth  
Pick your favorite task  
while you've got time to choose.

Be creative, ingeneuos,  
help the "doers" do more,  
Think up new ways to  
lighten each chore.

Without Wilbur and Orville  
We'd never have the jet.  
Don't make the overworked ask,  
**ARE WE HAVING FUN YET ???**

**R5-D3 ELECTRONIC SURPLUS**  
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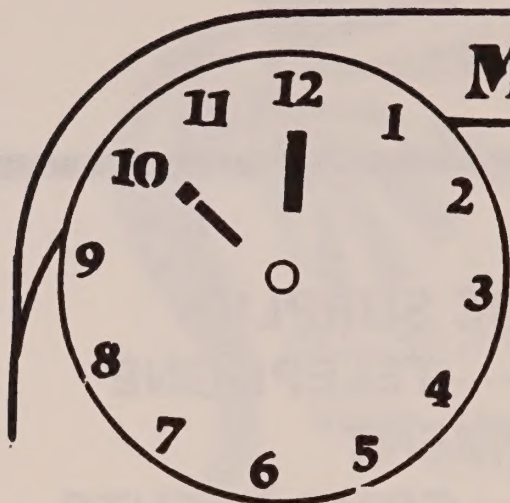
***SPEAKER RECONING ALL MAKES***

***8600 NE Sandy Blvd***

***Portland, Or 97220***

***503-252-2929***





# Meeting Minutes

The September 13th, 1986 meeting was called to order by Vice Pres. Jerry Talbott at 11:15 am. The Minutes of the June meeting were approved as published in the Call

Letter. The treasurer's report was given and accepted. The current balance in the treasury is \$706.05.

Good and Welfare: None

## Old Business

The Buena Vista Clubhouse agreement was discussed.

Jim Mason will be coordinating a rotating display of show piece radios which belong to members, at the American Advertising Museum in Old Town.

## New Business

Chuck and Bobbie Kibler resigned as the "clubhouse committee" after many years of faithful service. A Committee was appointed to set up and clean up the Clubhouse during the fourth quarter of 1986.

Leads and Needs were given & the meeting adjourned at 11:52.

Dan Howard, Secretary



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### Thanks for Years of Service

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For over eight years we have been using the Buena Vista club house. For the better part of those years, someone has had to unlock the doors, build the fire, start the coffee, not to mention, sweep up, clean up, and lock up.

Our newer members may not recognize that these hours of work and devotion have been contributed by a relative few. Your editor does not wish to omit any of those who have helped through the years, but he does wish to thank a specific few.

Thank you to Hugh and Virginia Ranken who have been faithful workers and have always given of their time. Thank you to Tom and Dorothy James. Prior to Tom's death, he and Dorothy were tireless in their involvement in club activities. And since then Dorothy has continue to help power the power supply.

Most recently, and for as long as this writer can remember, Chuck and Bobbie Kibler have been the keeper of the keys, host and hostess and chief cook & bottle washer and floor sweepers. And they've always done a great job of it. How seldom do we remember that these chores take time and a dedication to be early & stay late every meeting.

It's a shame that we only remember these workers when there is a change in the wind. Chuck and Bobbie have asked to step down and relax in their involvement in the Society. Before we let them do that, however, we want to make sure they know that we as a group and individually appreciate the work that they have done.

Thanks again to Chuck and Bobbie Kibler! We appreciate it.



## Remembering

In September we asked about your radio memory. We took three comedy shows which were easy to remember: Fibber McGee and Molly; The Great Gildersleeve; and The Mel Blanc Show. These are the answers to last month's "radio memory" quiz.

Fibber:

Molly McGee's maiden name was Driscoll. In fact, that was Molly's maiden name both on the air & off. Marion Driscoll and Jim Jordan were married in Peoria Illinois in 1918. It wasn't until 1932 that they became Fibber McGee and Molly.

On the show (not in life) Molly's high school sweetheart was Otis Catwalitter. Otis was less of a braggart than Fibber. As the story goes, he became a world famous sportsman and in one show, sent Molly a mounted prize winning salmon from Portland Oregon.

For as long as Fibber was on the air they lived in the little house at 79 wistful vista. The McGees won the house in a contest; lost the key and got arrested trying to break in. The remainder of the story involved broken bones and lost of memory. It must be like so many other things on the show..., you had to be there.



## Gildersleeve:

The middle initial in Throckmorton P Gildersleeve stands for Philharmonic. Yes, the rotund player that began as a neighbor to Fibber McGee and Molly admitted in an episode of the McGee show that his father was a musician and that indirectly the result was this unique middle name.

Gildy was the sole proprietor of the Gildersleave Girdle factory while living in Wistful Vista. He left on a tearful note and moved to Summerfield in 1941. Gildy's maid Birdie was played by Lillian Randolph.

## Mel Blanc:

Mel Blanc, who grew up in Portland, had the smell of grease paint in his blood early on. While in High School he did several radio skits with his brother Henry. By age 22 he was the Director of the Orpheum Theater in Portland.

Even by the time Mel became known as the man with a thousand voices his only well known automobile was Jack Benny's Maxwell, which Mel played through the entire Jack Benny run.

If ugga-ugga-boo ugga-boo-boo-ugga rings a familiar cord, it is because it was the password for the Brotherhood of Benevolent Zebras. Mel was always a member in questionable standing.



## A Part of Radio Passing Away

### Virginia Gregg

On September 15, long-time radio actress Virginia Gregg passed away in California. Miss Gregg's credits include, The Count of Monte Crisco, Dr. Kildare, The Adventures of Phillip Marlowe, Escape, Have Gun Will Travel, Frontier Gentleman, Let George Do, One Man's Family, Richard Diamond, Private Detective, Romance, Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar, Uncle Don.

Miss Gregg's fine acting talents were often listed with those of the late Lurene Tuttle, and Gloria Blondell. As used to happen with versatile female voices, the listener often didn't recognize Virginia's voice until the closing credits. It was no surprise to other radio actors however. Everyone who worked with her praised her talent and ability to take on even the most difficult roles.

Her loss is felt by all old radio buffs.

### Gordon B McLendon

On September 14th Gordon McLendon died at his home in Denton, Texas. In 1947 McLendon founded the Liberty Broadcasting Network. Station affiliates were largely in the Southeast and California, with exceptions in Canada, Chicago, and Denver.

McLendon was born in Paris Texas on June 8th, 1921. He was the son of Janett Marie and Barton McLendon. He received several graduate degrees from both Harvard & Yale, was decorated by the U.S. Navy, and was named as outstanding sports broadcaster by SPORTS MAGAZINE in 1951.

Though never a "household word" we should remember him for his contribution to early radio.



Yyyyyeeeeessssss !

Those who are familiar with the Jack Benny show will remember voice of the department store floor walker, the often-heard physician, and the some-times-hotel clerk. The nasal "Yeeeeessssssss" was the trademark. The voice was Frank Nelson. No other show gave Mr. Nelson the recognition that he received on the Benny program. The audience never had to guess who it was.

Early on, Nelson played the part of Dagwood Bumstead's neighbor, Herb Woodley, and later could be heard as the announcer on the Jack Paar show, or one of the "all-star cast" on Maisie.

Nothing has endeared Frank Nelson to the collector's of children's programs as much as the hours he spent reminiscing through and identifying the cast of the Cinnamon Bear. Frank played Captain Tin Top on the seasonal children's serial and volunteered hours of his time to identify the other members of the cast when the 1937 series was unearthed on transcription disk in Chicago.

Routinely Mr. Nelson worked side-by-side with cronies like Sheldon Leonard, Ben Wright, Alvia Allman, Marvin Miller, Hans Conried, Peter Leeds, Hanley Stafford, and Elliot Lewis. Recently Mr. Nelson could be seen doing television commercial for a national fast-food chain.

According to the Radiogram (published by SPERDVAC) Mr. Nelson passed away on September 12th. Not only will we miss him but his death marks another part of radio passing away.



## Duties of the Office

(article 5 of the constitution of NVRS)

President: The president shall preside at all regular & special meetings of the membership, and at the Board of Directors meetings. The President will set the time and place for the Board of Directors meetings. The president is empowered to appoint members to such committees as are appropriate to enhance the activities of the club.

Vice President: The Vice President shall be responsible for planning & arranging technical or entertainment activities associated with club meetings. He serves as the Chairman of the Program Committee if such committee is appointed. He acts as presiding officer at meetings in the absence of the President.

Recording Secretary: The recording Secretary shall be responsible for the recording of minutes of every business meeting and of every Board meeting. He will assist the Vice Pres. in planning & arranging technical/entertainment activities associated with club meetings.

Corresponding Secretary: The Corresponding Secretary shall be responsible for receiving and answering all correspondence sent to, or from the club. He will be present on any committee meeting set up to handle publicity for the club.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be accountable for all funds received or disbursed by the club & shall report all monetary transactions & the treasury balance at each regular meeting of the club. The Treasurer shall supply the membership chairman names of all members in good standing, to be available to the membership at the second regular meeting of the year.



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# SWAP SHOP

Interested in 1950s Television - FREE  
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Hillsboro, OR 97123, 503-649-6717 work  
206-627-1675

Philco Console mod 42-1009, Combination  
Radio Phonograph, fixer upper (everything  
but the speaker. \$15.00. Utah office  
paging speaker, cc. 1940. \$2.00. Bendix  
am/fm chassis, power supply, & Speaker.  
\$5.00. Dick Karman, 2515 NE 37th Avenue,  
Portland, OR 97212, 503-288-1285.

AC • CES • SION /ik-'sesh-en, ak-/

1. acquisition of additional property
2. to record in order of acquisition

Bill Devey:

Stromberg Carlson Mod 60 Tombstone

Jerry Talbott:

1930s Microphone "Pilot Mike's"  
1936 Silvertone Tombstone  
1949 Motorola 12" console T.V.



TRADIO

Classified Ads from the  
Puget Sound Antique Radio Association

WANTED:

Parts for AK-33 or equivalent antenna coil. 3-800 ohm wire-wound resistors. George Pack, 1448 E. 62 Ave, Vancouver, BC. V5P 2K7, (collect) 604-325-7477

David Grimes radios, 2 WD-11a, Sky Chief radios, All american Model 44 or 55 chassis, Colored Plastic, mirrored glass, art deco, and other unusual radios, Pre-50s TV sets, Old Radio shows on Tape. Ken Korhonen, 4022 41st Ave SW Seattle, WA 98116, 206-932-9363.

Early (1929-1932) short wave sets: Adams, Doerle, Faraday, Hammarlund (Roberts), National, Mascot(ica), McMurdo-Silver, Patterson, Pilot, Regent & Sargeant, also Parts and literature pertaining to same. Max Kaplan 8412 150th ST. NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98335, 206-851-4187 (before 2 pm.).

FOR TRADE:

Offering a Tektronics type 545 scope with type K plug-in unit, for a smaller tektronics scope such as types 310, 317, or 321 (repairable condition). Max Kaplan, 8412 150th ST NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98335.

FOR SALE:

RCA radio-phonograph, Circa 1929, Model Type Radiola. This is a RCA Model 18 radio with a hand crank phonograph in a beautiful cabinet. The cabinet is 18th century English w/ brass hardware. 54" high, 30" wide, and 17" deep. Manual & original disks included. \$450.00 Jerry Kelly, Seattle, Wash. (home until 11 pm) 206-644-4013, Days 206-442-7938.



## **NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO SOCIETY**

Regular membership                      \$15.00

Associate Membership                    \$12.00

Associate memberships are accepted  
from persons outside commuting distance  
of the Portland Metropolitan area.

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY, STATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**VOCATION** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL INTERESTS** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail membership information and dues to  
the **Northwest Vintage Radio Society**  
P.O. Box 02379, Portland Oregon, 97202

Membership includes monthly newsletters,  
ten monthly meetings (all except July &  
August), two swap meets and two auctions  
each year, as well as a trading roster  
of members, and unlimited "unclassified"  
ads in the **CALL LETTER**.